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this is the report of a Japanese Bureau of Aboriginal Affairs, and it is within the memory of men yet alive that Japan itself was a land of aborigines. But this bureau in Formosa is intelligent and active, it is grappling with the problem of civilizing the wild. The other comparison which surprises is to attempt to adjust this work to Dr. Mackay's "From Far Formosa." There is nothing to adjust, the scene of this work is in a part of Formosa of which Mackay had no knowledge, yet his work was published but fifteen years earlier. The text of the report is most succinct, it needs but 45 pages. The greater value of the volume lies in the illustrations, which are generously supplied; between page 2 and page 3 there are no less than twenty-one full-pages of process illustrations from photographs, more than a hundred in the volume, and all valuable illustrations for the ethnographer.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.

Through India and Burmah with Pen and Brush. By A. Hugh Fisher. xii and 358 pp. Index. T. Werner Laurie, London., 1912. 15s. 9 x 6.

Mr. Fisher gives us a vivid and minute description of his journey through India and Burmah where he visited the principal cities and places of historical interest. Sent to the East as artist for the Visual Instruction Committee of the Colonial Office, England, the author had especial opportunity to meet the prominent native rulers and officials, and to obtain an insight into the lives, customs and political views of the people. The book is profusely illustrated with sketches made by the author, and eight are reproduced in color from the original paintings.

W. J. BURROUGHS.

Forschungsreise in den Südöstlichen Molukken (Aru- und Kei- Inseln).

Im Auftrage der Senckenbergischen Naturforschenden Gesellschaft ausgeführt von Dr. Hugo Merton. xii and 208 pp. Maps, ills. Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft, Frankfurt a.M., 1910. Mks. 45. 12 x 9½.

This handsomely executed volume is pleasing evidence that the great Senckenberg Society of Frankfurt has returned to the field of inquiry in which some dozen or more years ago it ranked among the highest. In 1896 it began the publication of Kuekenenthal's zoological survey of Borneo and the Moluccas, which occupied four years in publication and which was enriched by a score of monographs by eminent investigators upon material tributary to the main theme. In returning after a decade to Indonesia the society has done wisely in selecting for publication the report of Dr. Hugo Merton upon the faunal survey of these outlying Moluccas, which, in company with Dr. Jean Roux, of Basel, occupied him from October, 1907, to August, 1908. His prime object lay along the lines of animal geography, for Aru (the Aroe of Dutch charts and thence carried in phonetic ignorance to many of our maps) and Kei are almost at the limiting point of the East Indian zoological province, and it was a matter of no little moment to determine to what extent it exhibited traces of mingling with the Papuan sub-province and the larger Australasian province. But so competent an observer could never be content to leave the cartography of Aru in the shabby confusion in which he found it. The sight of Merton's chart of this principal group of the Arafura Sea brings into fresh recollection experiences a quarter century old, both here and in Tenimber, where the channel which divides Timor-laut was still in such doubt that it had not yet been charted. Dr. Merton has done wisely in presenting as a base the Aru chart, as it was when he began his studies and in superimposing thereupon, on a perfectly registered tissue sheet, the results of his reconnaissance. Thus, at a glance we are able to see to what an extent geography is indebted to his skill in a field of research which was but incidental to the purpose of his visit. It now remains for the Dutch Admiralty to bring its charts up to this really critical date. I am dependent now upon memory, but in recollection of the three great estuaries which split the principal island, I am quite convinced that Dr. Merton's careful detail of the marsh and river systems of Sungi Maikoor, Sungi Barkai and Sungi Manumbai are undoubtedly accurate.

WILLIAM CHURCHILL.